

TS 135107

5 July 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Report on Satellite Reconnaissance Policy

1. In compliance with National Security Memorandum No. 156 of 26 May 1962, a committee was convened, under the Chairmanship of the Department of State, to formulate a national policy on the political and informational aspects of satellite reconnaissance. Attached is a report on the findings of the committee which has been transmitted to the President and which will be the subject of discussion at a National Security Council meeting on 9 July 1962. Provided it is adhered to, I believe the proposed policy is a useful move toward maintaining our satellite reconnaissance capability.

2. Your attention is called to paragraph 19 of page 10 of the report which deals with the question of a separate arms control agreement banning weapons of mass destruction from being carried in satellites. As is noted therein, the members of the committee were unable to agree on the advisability of making such a proposal and the question was referred to the President for review. (A summary of considerations pro and con is attached to the report as Tab C.) The CIA position in the committee was one of strong opposition to the proposal, and I recommend that this position be maintained by the DCI when the question is further discussed at the NSC meeting. In my opinion the only meaningful argument in favor of this separate agreement is that we are already committed to this approach even though it is not in the best interests of U. S. security.

3. With reference to the Note (page 1) which prefaces the report, I questioned the advisability of including this statement which

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by implication suggests that "private disclosure... to the Soviet leadership" might be desirable. However, in the face of strong support by the State Department and Mr. Carl Kayser for its inclusion, I was overruled.

Signed Herbert Scoville, Jr.

HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.
Deputy Director
(Research)

Attachment:

TE 185105

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